

9-16-2013

## Current, September 16, 2013

University of Missouri-St. Louis

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## Rare Sotheby's artifact comes to UMSL as part of nationwide tour

**KARLYNE KILLEBREW**  
STAFF WRITER

The first book ever printed in the United States, "The Bay Psalm Book: Property of the Old South Church in Boston" was exhibited at the University of Missouri–St. Louis's Mercantile Library from on September 13, 2013. The exhibit featured this artifact and some of the Mercantile's own invaluable texts, all open to be viewed by the public. A private exhibition was hosted on the preceding night, September 12, 2013, for those invited to the private viewing.

This honor was extended to the school by Sotheby's, a New York-based auctioning agency known for its highly valuable international artifacts, with a very large focus on books.

This particular artifact is currently being taken on a nationwide tour to raise awareness of its existence and generate interest for the upcoming auction. It came to St. Louis following a stint in Chicago's Newberry Library and left for the Cleveland Public Library on the eve of the thirteenth.

The historical hymnal is estimated to garner between \$15 and \$30 million dollars at the upcoming auction on November 26. Published 373 years ago by the Massachusetts Bay Colony Congregationalist Puritans, "The Bay Psalm Book" has been a key part of America's religious and political history in more ways than one.

Comparable to the "Gutenberg Bible" in age and significance, however lesser known, "The Whole Book of Psalmes" (an alternate title) signifies both the institutional beginnings of the U.S. and a



News Channel 5's Joe Young; The Bay Psalm Book



KAT RIDDLE/THE CURRENT

religious revolution.

Sotheby's Senior Vice President Selby Kiffer noted, "In a way, it represents the founding of the United States...it was printed in 1640, just twenty years after the pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock...one way of establishing their independence was they decided to translate the psalms into rhymed, meter[ed] poetry...In a way, it's a religious declaration of independence."

Due to a significant difference in Puritan worship from the established Church of England, a new practice where the entire

congregation sung the hymns rather than just the choir, it was necessary for the members to have access to the psalms in a hymnal. This led to a wide desire for a truer translation of the original Hebrew versions of the psalms than the Henry Ainsworth versions they originally brought with them from England. They duly imported a press, book materials, and a locksmith to operate the press that fall.

Of the 1700 copies originally printed, 11 are still in existence, two of which are still property of the Old South Church in Boston. The congregation voted to sell one of

the copies in order to raise money for church upkeep and future missions.

The November auction will be the first since 1947—when it sold for a world record price surpassing the "Gutenberg Bible," "The First Folio of Shakespeare," and Audubon's "Birds of America" in sales—that a copy of the book will be available for purchase.

The volume was bound in black leather and was displayed with it laying open about a third of the way on a black velvet sheet-covered bookstand. The pages were colored with age but none were torn, bent,

or water marked. The artifact was stable enough to allow non-flash photography.

In the spirit of showcasing treasured text, the St. Louis Mercantile Library created a small exhibit surrounding the book including their copies of the "Gutenberg Bible," an original publishing of the first "Book of Mormon," and multiple well-preserved religious pamphlets.

This rare event was courtesy of auspicious relations between John Hoover, director, UMSL Mercantile Library, and Sotheby's Senior Vice President Selby Kiffer.

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Ron Gossen discusses new book on UMSL history, “First, A Dream”

Visit thecurrent-online.com for exclusive online content. This week:

- A conversation with Ron Gossen, Senior Associate Vice Chancellor of Marketing and Communications and Editor of “First, A Dream: Reflections for a Golden Jubilee 1963-2013”
- An interview with Dr. Blanche M. Touhill, author of “A Photographic History of the University of Missouri – St. Louis: The First Fifty Years”
- More Features!
- More A&E!

NEWS BRIEFS

UMSL resident reported missing

UMSL resident Allison B. Reed was reported missing Sunday, September 15, 2013. According to an official release, Reed was last seen by her father on Thursday night when he was dropping her off at a campus living community. Reed is 21 years old, stands about 5 ft. 5 in. in height, weighs 125 pounds, and has brown hair and eyes. Anyone with information regarding Reed is encouraged to contact the UMSL Police Department at (314) 516-5155.

World Ecology Award will be presented at gala Sept. 22

The University of Missouri-St. Louis’ Whitney R. Harris World Ecology Center will present its 2013 World Ecology Award to Prince Albert II of Monaco at a gala on September 22 at the Missouri Botanical Garden’s Ridgway Center. The World Ecology Center is a collaborative effort between the Department of Biology at UMSL, the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Saint Louis Zoo which has become a world-renowned leader in graduate studies in ecology, biodiversity and conservation. The program supports graduate student researchers from over 20 countries. The collaboration provides academic research partners for the Garden’s and Zoo’s mission and work. The World Ecology Award is presented to an prominent individual who has made significant contributions towards bringing international attention to biodiversity, conservation and ecological issues. Past recipients have ranged from Dr. Jane Goodall to Harrison Ford and Conservation International to nature filmmakers Beverly and Derek Joubert. A prince might just occupy his time with the formalities and pleasantries of his office. Prince Albert II of Monaco has chosen to do something more meaningful and has made water issues his special focus. His Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation works on issues surrounding water resource management and on desertification control technologies. The foundation’s focuses in particular on polar regions, the Mediterranean basin and underdeveloped countries. The prince is the leader of the Principality of Monaco and the son of Prince Rainier and Hollywood star Grace Kelly. Although Monaco is a small country, it is world known and the prince has chosen to use his position and influence to draw attention to important global ecology issues. The award will presented at gala dinner, which will begin with cocktails at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. The award will be presented at 7:45 p.m. Information about the event, the award and the World Ecology Center can be found at the center’s website [www.umsl.edu/~biology/hwec/Events.html](http://www.umsl.edu/~biology/hwec/Events.html).

THE UNDERCURRENT

By Matthew Gianino

HOW DO YOU STAY INFORMED ABOUT CURRENT EVENTS?



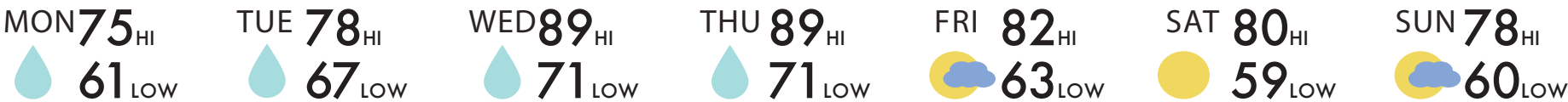
**RC PATTERSON**  
Second-Year Master’s Student, Philosophy  
*“I get updates on my phone from USA Today. I don’t keep up with a lot of UMSL events, unfortunately.”*



**SAVANAH WHITED**  
Sophomore, Astrophysics  
*“I read the Sunday Post-Dispatch. Also, I learn a lot sitting in class and talking with other students.”*



**ELLIOT RISCH**  
First-Year Master’s Student, Philosophy  
*“It’s a conglomeration between the internet, TV and the radio, [including] NPR, local blogs and other [sources] on the internet.”*





# UMSL celebrates quilt unveiling

LATWUANNA TROUPE  
STAFF WRITER

The Jubilee celebration sees another landmark with the reception and unveiling of a quilt that commemorates the 50 years of service, community and academic presence that UMSL has held in the region since its founding in 1963. The event was held in the NOSH of the Millennium Student Center on Sep. 12 at 11:00 am.

Tiara Rogers, coordinator, Building Operations, reached out to special guest speakers Ron Edwards, Rachel Houston, and student Elizabeth Dunn. Dunn delivered a resounding dedication by singing the alma mater.

Ron Edwards began his collegiate career as a student at UMSL from 1966 to 1969. Although he did not graduate from UMSL, he continued to be a part of campus. Edwards worked for UMSL from 1970 until he retired in 2011. “I worked the Art department for the first 5 years and was with the Student Center, for the last 36 years, the longest tenure to be held in school history of anyone in the Center operations group,” Edwards said. He tickled the crowd with his timeless memories of the first mascot being the “Rivermen” and the first-come

first-serve parking spots for staff and students. “It took me a while to find a parking spot today, and I see after all these years that still has not changed,” Edwards said.

The concept of having a Jubilee quilt came from Gallery Visio, student-operated art gallery housed in the MSC. Gallery Visio approached Rachel Houston a graduate from UMSL from spring 2011 with a Bachelors of Fine Arts in Studio Art. She maintained a great rapport with the university so when approached with the idea, she was excited to take on the project.

“Quilts are timeless,” Houston said. “They live through generations and are universally accessible. The art of quilting is easy for anyone; you don’t need a higher education to appreciate what they represent.”

The quilt was created with the idea to gather personal memorabilia from the last 50 years and represents that time period as a whole. Everyone from students, faculty, alumni, and staff were welcomed in the effort by donating all the memorabilia used to make the face of the quilt.

The symbols and style of the



UMSL student, Elizabeth Dunn and Alumni Ron Edwards and Rachel Houston.

quilt were inspired by the many transformations during the university’s history, including the Rivermen and classic seals that document the many insignias that have signified the institution.

Before the quilt was presented to the audience, Elizabeth Dunn, UMSL student, serenaded the crowd with the UMSL alma mater, which officiated the significance

of the quilt. As Ron Edwards unveiled the quilt, students, faculty and staff looked on with common admiration of the great texture and styles that made up the quilt.

The quilt had stitching of a current which symbolized the Rivermen being UMSL’s first mascot. The current also represented the naming of the

student newspaper “The Current.” With the 50th Jubilee year coming to its last months, this quilt will give students something tangible to represent the many great things that were dedicated to the institution and of how it has developed over the years.

# News at Noon talks self-defense laws, rights

PAUL PEANICK  
STAFF WRITER

Students, faculty, staff and visitors met for the monthly “News at Noon” discussion entitled, “Self Defense, Hard to Topple,” on September 11, 2013, at 12:15 p.m. in the Millennium Student Center (MSC). News at Noon is a forum for discussion of the latest politically and socially relevant issues of the day. The talk centered on the recent trial Florida v. George Zimmerman, a trial with important implications for self-defense law.

The discussion was moderated by Sharon Pruitt, editor-in-chief, The Current, and led by Dr. David Klinger, associate professor, criminology.

Dr. Klinger, a former Seattle area police officer, rose through the ranks to serve as an advocate for police officers charged with the abuse of force. He current professorial work is in self-defense law. “My focus is on the legal use of force, particularly deadly force,”

Klinger said.

Prosecutors had initially decided not to charge Zimmerman, citing lack of evidence, and that what evidence existed seemed to point in favor of his version of events. Tragically, Mr. Martin’s own account will never be heard. “We may never know the complete truth,” Klinger said.

“The impetus is on the prosecution in a trial to prove guilt. The defense need only show a reasonable doubt,” one student argued.

“George Zimmerman stalked Trayvon Martin down, an unarmed teenager, and shot him,” another student said.

“The defense bungled this case from the very beginning. There would never have been charges if this hadn’t become a political football!” a third stated.

Florida is one of 26 states with a controversial “stand-your-ground” law. These laws provide an interpretation of self-defense in which a person need not retreat

first, or be backed into a corner before using force. “The basic idea is that we all have a right to be in the public space. I shouldn’t have to flee the public space from an aggressor, I have a right to be there,” Dr. Klinger explained. “That doesn’t mean you can just shoot somebody for slapping you in public.”

The court judges on what a ‘reasonable person’ would think of as a reasonable response to aggression. A larger aggressor and smaller defender, might, for example, justify the use of deadly force by the latter in more contexts than if the roles were switched, and sooner in the altercation. The Zimmerman trial is a good example. It was thought that, George Zimmerman, being so much larger than Trayvon Martin—250 versus 170 pounds—would certainly have not been justified in shooting unarmed Trayvon; it was thought that such a large man had to be the aggressor.

According to Klinger, the evidence showed that when Trayvon

Martin was shot he was on top of George Zimmerman in a mounted position. Zimmerman was just in poor shape, a bungler. Martin had at least seen mixed martial arts enough to know what a mounted position is. And from the bottom of such a place, a man might fear for his life. A reasonable person in that context would be justified in using deadly force. Florida’s stand your ground law need not even apply, as if Zimmerman was on his back, then he had his “back to

the wall,” and could not retreat any further.

News at Noon is a monthly series by “The Current” Student Newspaper and “The New York Times” with support from the Office of Student Life and the Center for Teaching and Learning. The next discussion will be held on October 9, 2013 at 12:15 p.m. on the topic “Should We Put a Price on Carbon?” in Century Room C, third floor of the MSC.

## NEXT NEWS@NOON

“SHOULD WE PUT A PRICE ON CARBON?”

WHEN: OCTOBER 9 12:15-1:30

WHERE: CENTURY ROOM C



# Dr. Blanche M. Touhill authors photo history of UMSL's first 50 years

HEATHER WELBORN  
OPINIONS EDITOR

Dr. Blanche M. Touhill came to the University of Missouri-St. Louis as a professor in the campuses' second year. Within three decades, she worked her way up from faculty member to university chancellor. She is credited for the computerization of the campus, acquiring large land grants, and implementing dozens of new degree programs. She is releasing a new book, "A Photographic History of the University of Missouri – St. Louis: The First Fifty years". She spoke with The Current about her UMSL experience.

**The Current (TC):** Tell me a little bit about your newest book.

**Dr. Blanche M. Touhill (BT):** I wrote a history of the first 20 years of the campus, years ago, and since I retired, I've been working on a second volume of that. The first volume went from 1963-1983, and the second will pick up there in 1984 and go to when I left in 2002. About two years ago, the campus asked me to do a photographic book of the 50 year history of the campus. I took the info in volume one, which is published, and volume two, which is unpublished, and made seven chapters. What I tried to do is think of a main thing that each chancellor did, and then I tried to get pictures of the people involved in those activities. I've chosen pictures of students, faculty, staff, members of the community, foreign visitors, and I made sort of a photographic family album of the history of the campus.

**TC:** Why did you decide to publish a photographic history of UMSL?

**BT:** We found some wonderful pictures, we have students at homecoming and at classes and going out to do internships in the community, we have the faculty that got awards, but now there's something else that goes in. The 50 yrs have been a really, I don't want to say revolutionary, but a time of great change in American society. You can trace, by these pictures, just looking at the pictures alone, you can trace how women have greater potential in American society. In the first couple chapters, there are no women athletes, because women weren't on the team. Then Title IX came into operation, and all higher education had to develop inter-collegiate teams. I show the first four pilot teams that the next year join the NCAA.

We also have a small section on the Vietnam War. Most campuses in the US had dialogue on the pro and con of the Vietnam War. I took those pages from The Current and printed them, so people can see the pictures of the students gathering to discuss the Vietnam War, we have faculty talking to students at bug lake. I talk about what happens to some of the faculty that canceled classes afterward, to ROTC on campus once the demonstrations were over, so it tracks that. It also tracks African Americans coming to the university in large numbers. With the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and its re-authorization

in 1972, more higher education was held accountable for both women and African American empowerment, anybody who was a protected class.

I also have a page on the ADA [American Disabilities Act], how the affirmative action officers and dean, vice chancellor of student affairs got together and made changes on the campus, made it disability-friendly. I talk about the coming of international students to the campus, our greater interest in glob affiliation. I try to talk about the university as a mirror of the society. I also talk about our interest in helping elementary and secondary schools become better, in the form of the bridge program, which is still on the campus, and tries to get students ready to go to college. If you're interested in one particular era, you could read one chapter. If you're interested in knowing what happens to a university in reflective mirror of society, then you read the whole book.

**TC:** How were you able to go from a faculty member to chancellor within 30 years?

**BT:** I was prepared, I had my doctorate, I began to publish and teach, and had an opportunity to become an administrator, I was the first woman to be the head of the senate. Because of that, I got to know everybody.

**READ THE FULL INTERVIEW  
ON THECURRENT-ONLINE.COM**



Contributors of "First, A Dream" sign copies of new book

## UMSL Bookstore hosts launch and reception for "First, A Dream"

ALBERT NALL  
STAFF WRITER

When it comes to the University of Missouri-St. Louis's 50th Anniversary celebration, one of the most talked-about projects is "First, A Dream: Reflections for a Golden Jubilee; 1963 – 2013." "First, A Dream" is a collection of personal essays about the founding of UMSL and the legacy it has built in the St. Louis region over the past 50 years. The book also features classic photos from the university's archive collections, as well as more recent shots by campus photographer August Jennewein.

The book, edited by Ron Gossen, Chief Marketing Officer and Senior Associate Vice Chancellor of Marketing and Communications, features a range of contributors, from members of faculty and staff to students and alumni. A number of the book's contributors were present for the launch and reception, held at the UMSL Bookstore on September 11 from 4 to 6 p.m. At the reception, members of the campus community could mingle, enjoy light refreshments, and purchase a signed copy of "First, A Dream."

"The mix of old and new conveys the growth of this wonderful institution and the sense of its immeasurable worth to the St. Louis region," Linda Belford, Senior Manuscript Specialist and archivist at the Thomas Jefferson Library, said. Belford, along with many other members of the campus community, had a hand in bringing the book to completion.

"The quality of [an UMSL] education is great, and that is what we found out when we interviewed alumni for 'First, A Dream,'" Bob Samples, Associate Vice Chancellor of Marketing and Communications and contributor to "First, A

Dream," said.

Susan Miller, graduate, gerontology, was one of a number of students who attended the book launch and reception in order to show their Triton pride.

"I have not read 'First, A Dream' yet. However, I love the university and wanted my very own copy of it when I saw it was out," Miller said, adding her prediction that UMSL will continue to be a major university that produces top notch students 50 years from now. "At UMSL, there are practical applications of theory and engagement of the professors. Along with the [sense of] camaraderie [among] students, that will make the university a household name in the future."

"The foundation of UMSL was centered, from the first day, in building a great faculty. And that continues to be our substance," Chancellor Tom George said. "The book contains wonderful examples of individuals who have made their mark on this campus and this community in myriad ways."

Innovative technologies and a virtual university community are among the predictions of UMSL's future that can be found in "First, A Dream."

Will music superstar Taylor Swift perform a farewell concert 50 years from now at UMSL? To find out which of the book's contributors made this prediction, check out "First, A Dream, Reflections for a Golden Jubilee; 1963 – 2013," available for purchase purchased at the UMSL Bookstore for \$29.95 or online at umslbookstore.com.

**READ AN INTERVIEW WITH THE  
BOOK'S EDITOR, RON GOSSEN, ON  
THE CURRENT-ONLINE.COM**

### STUDENTS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO A FREE PRESENTATION ON THE TOPIC OF ADMISSION TO LAW SCHOOL

Students are cordially invited to a free presentation on the topic of admission to law school on Monday, Sept. 23, from 12:30 – 1:30 pm, in Rm. 315 MSC.

The presenter will be Alice Dickherber, Assistant Director, Admissions Office, Saint Louis University Law School. Thomas P. Knoten, UMSL Pre-Law Advisor, will introduce the speaker.

As an extra bonus for seniors applying to SLU Law this year, application fee waiver codes will be available. Light refreshments will be served. It is requested to RSVP Grace Derda, derda@umsl.edu. Please include full name and UMSL email address.



ALBUM REVIEW



Chicago-based band is retrospective R&B

ALBERT NALL  
STAFF WRITER

Is the Chicago-based band JC Brooks & The Uptown Sound a victim of its own press?

Based on first impressions of Chicago-based band JC Brooks & The Uptown Sound’s album “Howl” one might conclude that their style is that of the underground punk sound, complete with distorted guitars and lyrics designed to enrage. But what we get from the beginning on the title cut with JC Brooks & the Uptown Sound, contrary to first impressions, is nothing short of true finesse.

“Howl” begins slowly in a way that is introspective and polished. The beat with Billy Bungeroth on guitar and Ben Taylor on bass is professional with great zest and a pulsating vibe that is upbeat and optimistic. With Kevin Marks (drums) and Andy Rosenstein (keyboards) backing lead singer JC Brooks on vocals, their album is a retrospective blend of rock and “old school” R&B that puts alternative rock to shame.

Some of the premises included in “Howl” appear quite oblique and centered on issues of trust and illicit love and the denials that go with it. What resonates in the some of the numbers is someone who is a snoop and a patron of untamed ardor. There is a lust for power, dominance and control over the other as well as co-existences and a loathing of the beloved. At the same time, there is a clear revulsion of what the paramour in this tale has become, in songs “Married for a Week” and “Rouse Yourself.”

In “River” and “Cold” the subtext is holding on when things are collapsing. Both numbers go from melancholy at the beginning to angry and hostile defiance. The meekness and insolence of being a romantic captive becomes part of the quest for personal triumph over romantic compulsions that evolve into rebellion and noncooperation.

In analysis of JC Brooks, “Howl” is a form of postmodern rock that has transformed itself from its early soul music roots to overarching themes and interpretations of contemporary

culture. There is an interplay of divergent cultures and systems where what is the idealistic peaceful existences is counteracted by violent anarchy or wanton expressions. How lead singer JC Brooks manages to bring an alluring and captivating persona to very threatening matters becomes the symbol, the meaning and the message. JC Brooks as a musician gets across loud and clear because he resonates with the collective social consciousness of his audiences in a way that is serious, mature and earnest.

JC Brooks & the Uptown Sound debuted Howl for St. Louis fans at Off Broadway on August 9. With backing on the “Rouse Yourself” video from “Parks and Recreation” actress Aubrey Plaza on NBC and Jake Johnson from Fox’s “The New Girl,” JC Brooks & the Uptown Sound is indeed on its way to establishing a presence that sets itself in the front of the field for independent pop artists.

“Howl” can be purchased for \$13.95 at bloodshotrecords.com. Selections from the album can be downloaded at Amazon, Fina-music and iTunes.

GAME REVIEW

New Marvel game does not measure up

DANYEL POINDEXTER  
STAFF WRITER

In today’s world, the number of fans of comic books have been growing, especially when it comes to the two known rivals, Marvel and DC Comics. With the DC Online Universe game already known, it’s Marvel’s turn to step up to the plate.

On June 4, 2013, Gazillion Entertainment came out with Marvel Heroes, a free multiplayer online game for PC players. On September 4, 2013, they added another update that is supposed to add more depth to the game.

What is different? The story begins with the Cosmic Cube, which is a device that holds explicable power and can change the world as we know it now. Unfortunately, Dr. Doom is the one who has it and with it, he wants to change the world into his own image.

Dr. Doom allies himself with

the top villains of the Marvel Comic book world, including Hydra, Dr. Octopus, and many others. The story is actually an added feature that they didn’t have when the game first came out which was a very wise choice to make.

Following that story, the player gets a mini preview of how most of the Marvel Comic book heroes came to be including the Fantastic Four, Spiderman, and even some of the X-Men. The story gives off a new cartoony-but-comic-book feel that players don’t really get in other games. However, the cartoony-feel of the story does not match the game’s trailer and wall-paper.

The game itself is a bit on the soft side and could have been more detailed with its features. For example, the trailer explains how you can choose your own hero. That’s not the case. When you start off the game, you only get to pick from five super heroes.

You either choose Daredevil, Hawkeye, Scarlet Witch, the

Thing, or Storm. The more you play the game, the more you are able to get to the other characters that they actually show on the trailer.

When starting the game, you may get a sense of looking down the whole time, because the camera view is constantly pointed down, towards your hero. It makes it seem as though there is only one direction; there are not really any camera options.

If you are a brand new player, here is another deterring fact. The game does not really give you directions when you start out. They tell you how to strike an opponent, but you’re really on your own after that. The map they give you only highlights the path you are walking on which makes it hard to spot villains when your camera is always faced down.

If you’re into high quality games with clear directions and no misleading trailers, then you might want to turn a blind eye to this one.

GALLERY 210



‘Exposure 16: Primal Forms’ highlights natural materials

KARLYNE KILLEBREW  
STAFF WRITER

Gallery 210 has unveiled their annual “Exposure” exhibit for 2013, which runs August 24 to October 5, “Exposure 16: Primal Forms.” Extending an exhibition opportunity to St. Louis area artists, this year’s collection featured Jane Birdsall-Lander, Jerry Monteith, and Melody Evans.

The exhibit opened with a reception and gallery talk on August 24. During the reception from 4- 7 p.m., casual but elegantly dressed people milled around sipping wine, interpreting various artificial depictions of nature, mingling and discussing the art works. The DJ’s well-blended mix of classic R&B and jazz instrumentals provided a backdrop to the hum of conversations as people randomly linked up into groups and entered the gallery space.

All of the art in the exhibit was sculptural and was grouped by artist. As one enters the Gallery B space, Jane Birdsall-Lander’s works were the ones you first see displayed on the wall to the left. The pieces “Bound Alphabet,” “Cloud Rake,” “Fern Lure,” “Ox,” “Bundle” and “Ancestor,” were created from wooden or industrial objects, and have a pleasing similar warm light wood and silver metal tone. Jerry Monteith’s work referencing fly fishing were a series of small fishing lure-like objects in boxes on the next wall, along with two larger sculpture on the floor. Melody Evan’s works, titled “Gathering Landscape,” were glazed ceramic forms mostly in blues and greens.

Overall the visitors seemed pleased with the artwork, or were so deeply enchanted that the only discernible emotion was fascination.

“I don’t know if I like it. I do enjoy looking at it, seeing how the artist made it,” Doug Kirk, member of the Gallery 210 Board of Directors, said.

While there was an intended theme focused on the primitive

and the natural, each artist conveyed a personalized message through their abstractions.

Matt Steiniger, UMSL alumnus and former Gallery 210 employee, was captivated with Jane Birdsall-Lander’s work, “[Her] use of language and how it represents letters and their true meaning [is fascinating].”

There was a panel discussion with the three artists in the gallery auditorium before the gallery reception. Visitors were permitted to ask questions pertaining to the exhibit or its creators. Each of the three artists explained their intentions, what materials they used, and what influences inspired their art.

They all have a childhood background somewhat rooted in the natural world and were fascinated by potential manipulations and reconstructions of natural things. Jane Birdsall-Lander had been trained as both a writer and an artist. Her creations are essentially compliments to her writing. A particular poem might be the story and her three dimensional art is the illustration of realization of it. The works were her way of playing with the shapes of ancient alphabets characters in order to connect with the viewers at a fundamental level beyond language. This elemental communication was the common goal for every member of the trio. When asked to assign a name to this style of natural world-influenced art, Melody Evans made the point that stuck.

“There’s less naming of movements,” Evans said. “It’s not something to name it...we all come from the same world and we’re all influenced by what’s happened right now. You see a lot of things that are influenced by the concept of the internet. It’s [all] very accessible and tearing down what we used to call the high art.”





UMSL roller hockey team in 2011

# UMSL Roller Hockey Club hosts open tryouts

JOHN “SAMMY” LUDEMAN  
SPORTS EDITOR

University of Missouri-St. Louis students who wish to participate in a competitive athletic team, this is your opportunity. The UMSL Roller Hockey Club will be holding an open skate at Midwest Sport Hockey, inside of Queeny Park, on September 22 at 7 p.m.

The UMSL Roller Hockey Club is a Division I team within the National Collegiate Roller Hockey Association (NCHRA). It is independent of the NCAA and relies on funding outside of UMSL. They won a National Championship in 2009.

UMSL alumnus Andy Meade and his assistant Jason Holzum will coach the team, with three years of experience at the helm. Meade and Holzum formerly played for the UMSL Roller Hockey Club a total of 3 seasons each, winning a Division I National Championship as well as appearing in the finals and a final four stint.

Coach Meade emphasizes that the club is for the students and open to everyone. “The UMSL Hockey club is a very competitive hockey team that is a national contender year after year. We are open to students of all hockey backgrounds, and we have had females play in the past and certainly encourage them to attend our tryouts. The team is composed of both undergrad as well as graduate students who meet a certain credit hour requirement,” Meade said. “We typically skate once a week during the year but

this is totally dependent on the students; this is a student-run club.”

Being a student-run club, the success of the program depends on the participation rate and support of the student body. Therefore, anyone having interest in the club is encouraged to attend the open skate on September 22.

The club will have a much different and school accommodating schedule than other sports. “The collegiate hockey season, unlike any other sport, runs the entire school year. We play tournament-style weekends, where you will play 3-5 games a weekend with a total of 5 or 6 weekends throughout the year and then ending with a National Championship, which is held at a different venue across the United States,” Meade said.

Skating will occur at Midwest Sport Hockey, and is also where the majority of games will be held. Additionally, two other rinks in the St. Louis area will hold games.

Coach Meade and Holzum are excited to start the season, and invest much of their personal time and assets to the club out of their passion for the sport. “We both have full time jobs and do this solely for the love of the game. We have dedicated countless hours and our own money to keep this club alive, with hopes that one day the school will help these students out and take away some of the financial burden,” Meade said.

# Women’s basketball team, coach ready for change

ADDY LAI  
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SPORTS EDITOR

Katie Vaughn, head women’s basketball coach, and the women’s basketball team face a big season of change. The team is adjusting to many fresh faces for 2013-2014.

Four freshman have joined the team, including Sydney Bloch, freshman, business administration; Jordan Fletcher, freshman, accounting; Danielle Daum, freshman, biology; and Jordan Boyce, freshman, undeclared.

Additionally, two transfers have added depth to the lineup. Jamie Madden, sophomore, played one season at the University of Texas at El Paso and appeared in 17 games off the bench. Alyssa Like, senior, communications, started her college career at Olney Central College where she was a 2011-12 NJCAA Third Team Division I All-American. Like then spent a year at Murray State before joining the Tritons this season.

The additions do not come without losses, with two players sidelined with injuries. A fresh-

man player sustained an ACL tear this summer, and a sophomore who saw significant playing time last season will be out for three months with a thumb injury requiring surgery.

Coach Vaughn and her assistants remain determined and optimistic about the season in spite of the change of the team and injuries sustained. “We’ve kind of had to sit back this last week and kind of revamp what we were wanting to do... We have an offense and a defense [that] we worked on last year and we have quite a few returners so we’re going to stick with that and add a few things based off the incoming kids that we brought in,” Vaughn said.

To help the team prepare for success, she enlists the help of the strength and conditioning coach, Josh McMillan. McMillan spends countless hours every week with the players. Their regiment includes heavy conditioning and weights, as well as individual player and teamwork activities. “Getting them conditioned, I mean that’s the biggest

part right now. It’s getting them in shape, being in condition, so that we can be an aggressive, hard-nose team,” Vaughn said.

The hard work in the offseason with McMillan is expected to pay big dividends for the team. Students will have the opportunity to see the growth and change as November and the excitement of new season starts to roll in.

Coach Vaughn works confidently with every intent to see the basketball team, full of old and new faces, succeed in the basketball court. “Our returners are doing a great job. I mean they are where they need to be from last year. And obviously, our goal is to be better than we were last year, so we have some improvements to make and again I think our conditioning is our biggest improvement right now. It’s hard to be disciplined on the court defensively or work hard offensively while you are fatigued or tired. But we like what we see and we’ll just keep moving forward with them.”

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POINT

COUNTERPOINT

BREAKING BAD’S WALTER WHITE

POINT: Walter White is a hero

It is difficult to envision the Walter who existed at the show’s inception five seasons ago, the mild mannered high school chemistry teacher who enjoyed time with his children and get together with in-laws. Since his ominous diagnosis of terminal cancer, the certainty of death has hung sharp and heavy over Walt’s increasingly-balding head like an executioner’s guillotine. In a refusal to abandon his family in death, the weak-willed educator transforms himself into creator and ruler of a drug empire. In doing so, his death sentence becomes less unwarranted punishment, more Damoclean sword, a realistic end to an effort readily apparent.

It is hard indeed to be the king, to bear such power bestowed upon just one man is both daunting and intoxicating. In this respect, Walt’s decline towards nonexistence is not only lucrative, but memorable, in the monetary sense. Violent past aside, his true intention has been that of a provider, not victim, and his pursuits, illegal

and ill-advised as they are, are not without measurable merit. When a man must finally face his own mortality, he is not ready, and obsesses over his inadequacy and, more importantly, lack of legacy and continuing influence upon the living. His family, once of primary importance, becomes a singularity, the last stand of a dying man who can’t cope with abandoning those he swore to eternally support.

It’s disturbing to think of the desires of a soon to be dead man, especially acts as dangerous and terrifying as Walt’s, but when a man must accept his ultimate formless state in the beyond, does he not reexamine the product of his own hands? Is this not proactive acceptance of the end we all must confront in the end? Do we resist this morbid certainty and hope for the best, have faith in the financial fidelity of our family? Or is there an alternative that we can offer those that survive us? Is a family worth protecting at any cost? At what point do you refuse to fund your loved ones in the afterlife?

COUNTER: Walter White is a villian

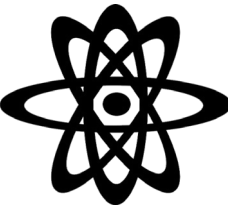
Walter White is an evil, ruthless murderer who receives not sympathy, but scorn from Breaking Bad viewers worldwide. Terminal illness in no way excuses illegal activity of any kind, aside from perhaps alternative treatments deemed unacceptable by your country of residence. Methamphetamine synthesis has no rehabilitative effects on its cooks, nor does homicide and child abuse. While his goal of providing for his family after death is itself admirable, it is idealistic and downright unfeasible.

Walt operates under the fallacious assumption that a man can put forth enough effort within his lifetime to acquire enough currency to support his survivors after he passes on. There is never enough money to leave your loved ones, is there? What Walt really wants to buy is time, and his illegal activity, his biased reasoning are mere distractions that hold his fear of death at bay. Viewers are to believe his acts and efforts are focused on his family, but are they? Murdering drug dealers and innocents alike to stay in an off-the-books business hardly sounds like a creative factor in establishing quality family time.

Let’s look at the truth behind Walt’s motivations, a brilliant

scientist who took a buy out from a business he pioneered, only to see the venture top out at a value of billions. His life up to the point of his diagnosis has been that of an unwitting voyeur, a man living in submission to his lack of fortune and stunted potential. When the cancer clock starts ticking, counting down his time left to act, Walt reacts explosively, and removes his friendly facade like an ill-fitting mask. He no longer has reason to abide by the standards that dominated his former life. With his dying belabored breaths, Walt pursues financial success over familial satisfaction, preferring to achieve in his final days what he refused to initiate before his illness. He allows the monster inside to escape, and in doing so wields a terrifying force over his city and civil arrangements. Walt does not become the bad guy, he has always been the bad guy, waiting for an excuse, medical or otherwise, to ignite his terrifying ambition and reap the rewards of his ill-gotten gains. His demise is inherent and encouraged. Have no sympathy for sociopaths. He gets what he deserves in the end, and like his cancer, has no say or control over the inevitable outcome of his barbaric pursuits.

COLUMN: SCIENCE MATTERS



World Ecology Center gives prize for conservation work

CATE MARQUIS  
A&E EDITOR

Let’s put a spotlight on one of the science gems of the University of Missouri-St. Louis campus, the Whitney R. Harris World Ecology Center.

The center is a collaborative effort of the university’s biology department, the Saint Louis Zoo and the Missouri Botanical Garden. Part of its mission is outreach to the public about conservation and ecology topics. Another is for the university to provide graduate student researchers to help these institutions, the Zoo and the Garden, in essential research related to their purpose.

The irony is that the World Ecology Center may be better known around the world than here in St. Louis or on campus among students. In my opinion, the efforts of this campus institution, as well as other science institutions on campus, deserve more attention.

On September 22, the World Ecology Center hosts a gala to honor the recipient of its World Ecology Award. The World Ecology Center presents this award most years to a prominent person who has made great contributions to biodiversity and protection of the environment, and helped raise awareness internationally on these issues. Past recipients include nature filmmakers Derek and Beverly Joubert and Dr. Jane Goodall.

This year’s honoree is Prince Albert II of Monaco, who established a foundation that is concerned with water resources and desertification control. The gala, with cocktails and

dinner followed by the award presentation, will take place at the Missouri Botanical Garden’s Ridgway Center.

The World Ecology Center is offering another, less dressy event focused on conservation later this fall. The Whitney and Anna Harris Conservation Forum for 2013 is “Energy Production Meets Biodiversity.” This scientific conference takes place on November 19 at the center’s other partner, the Saint Louis Zoo in its Living World building.

Topics to be discussed include bat fatalities at wind energy facilities, the impact of mountaintop removal coal mining on Appalachian ecosystems, the impact of rapid expansion of natural gas exploration in Arkansas on water resources and the debate about genetic diversity and solar energy harvesting in the Mojave Desert. Speakers include Robert Barclay, Ph.D., of University of Calgary, Brian Lutz, Ph.D., of Kent State University, Sally Entrekin, Ph.D., of University of Central Arkansas and Amy Vandergast, Ph.D., of the United States Geological Survey.

The conference is free and open to all but registration is required, which can be done by emailing [hintonpa@umsl.edu](mailto:hintonpa@umsl.edu). The conference and begins at 5:30 p.m. and includes a light dinner and viewing of exhibits.

Attending this event sponsored by the World Ecology Center can add depth to a student’s college experience. Of course, this is not the only science “center” at UMSL.



The biology department also has the Center of Neurodynamics, which does an array of research related to neuroscience. The Center for Nanoscience is a cross-disciplinary center that does work in the fast-growing, cutting edge field of the very small, nanoscience, developing technology related to health, energy and food research.

In addition, the science departments at UMSL periodically sponsor guest speakers on campus or other public programs. One example is the Physics and Astronomy department’s Observatory’s Open House, which takes place monthly during warmer months. The next Open House is a two-day event October 12 and 13 for Astronomy Day. On October 7, the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry hosts a guest speaker, Dr. Dawn Shiang, an alumnus who recently retired from her position as Associate Director for Sustainable Technologies at Dow Chemical Company. Shiang will speak on “The Principles of Sustainable Chemistry and Engineering: An Industrial Approach for Innovation.”

There are plenty of science events to check out at UMSL.

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The Current

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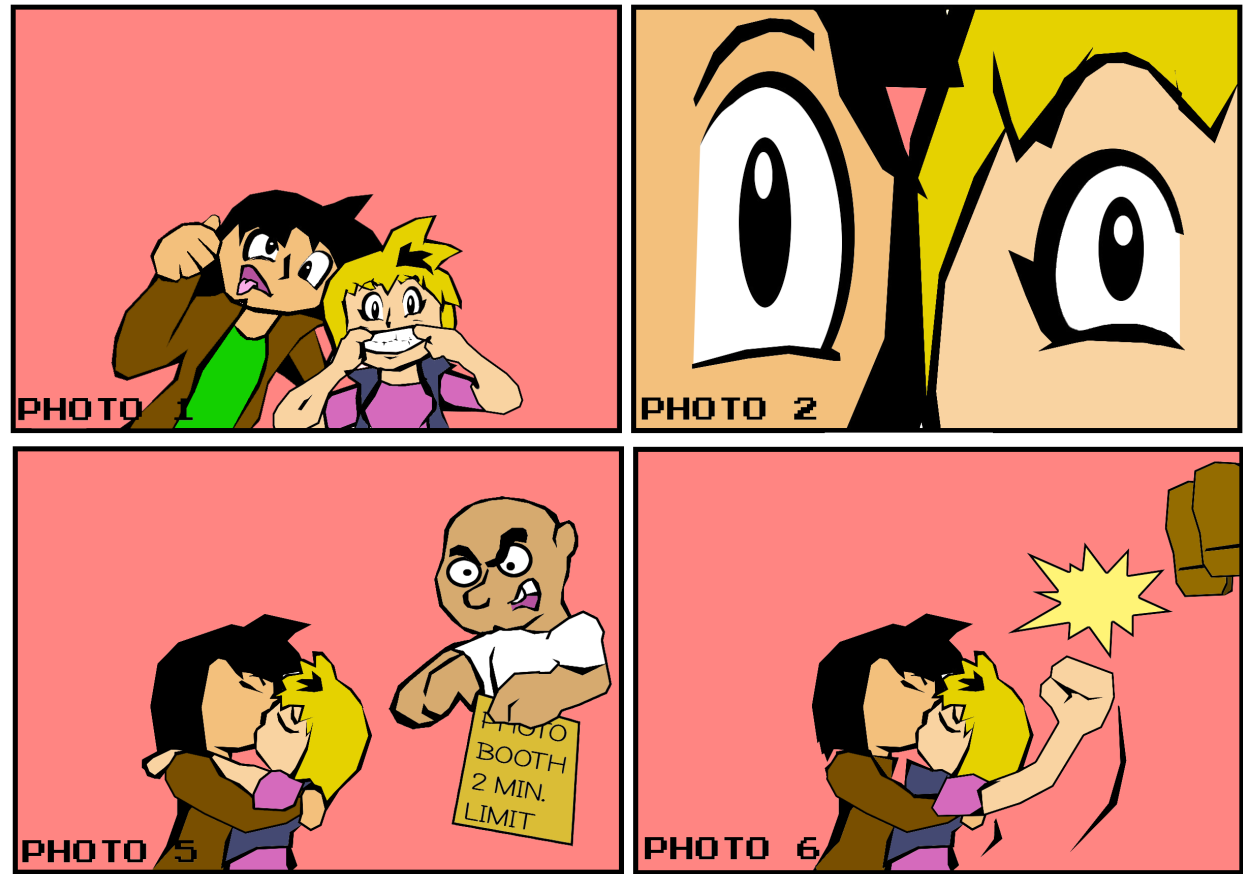
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# Jubilee Flashback

compiled by Albert Nall

The Current has been a part of UMSL since 1966. In honor of the campus’ 50th anniversary, we are reprinting articles from years past. This story originally ran on September 16, 1996. For more Jubilee Flashback, visit our website at thecurrent-online.com.

Schoolhouse Rock is back, and for many Tritons, it may be coming to a family arena near you. On September 16, 1996, The Current published a review of “Schoolhouse Rock! Rocks.” Produced by Atlantic Records, Schoolhouse Rock is based on a set of short animated educational programs that aired on Saturday mornings on ABC from 1973 to 1985. Both old and new episodes of Schoolhouse Rock aired from 1993 to 1999. New episodes have been produced on home video as recently as 2009.

Schoolhouse Rock uses music to teach young people everything from grammar and early American history to science, math and economics. Some of their most popular numbers include “My Hero, Zero,” from Multiplication Rock, “Verb, That’s What’s Happening,” from Grammar Rock, and “Just a Bill,” from American Rock. The most recent DVDs were released a few years ago and include such hits as “I Am Going To Send Your Vote to College,” which taught viewers about the Electoral College, and the “Presidential Minute,” inspired by the 2008 presidential election.

One of the most memorable songs referenced in The Current’s 1996 article was the remake of “Three is a Magic Number,” produced for “Schoolhouse Rock! Rocks.” This was the last appearance made by the alternative rock band Blind Melon before the group’s lead singer, Shannon Hoon, died at the age of 28 of a cocaine overdose. With a remake of “Conjunction Junction,” Better than Ezra was also another alternative rock band that contributed to the “Schoolhouse Rock! Rocks.” A portion of the money earned from

**Various Artists—  
Schoolhouse Rock! Rocks  
(Atlantic)**

Remember the days back when life was a lot simpler? Back when the only thing that really mattered was whether your mom bought a new Dukes of Hazard lunchbox and some G.I. Joes? Well you can relive those days and memories while listening to the new *School House Rocks! Rocks*.

Many of the best groups in music today are found redoing the classic hits that every one of us

heard growing up. From the all time best “Three Is A Magic Number” to the very little played “The Tale of Mr. Morton” it hall of the great songs.

Blind Melon makes their final appearance on the disc as a group with their remake of “Three Is A

Magic Number.” Shannon Hood the groups lead singer died after the song was recorded. The song sounds almost exactly like the orriganal, in other words it sounds excellent.

One of the other better versions on the disc is Better Than Ezra’s version of “Conjunction Junction.” With all their adaptaions to the song it is surprising that it still sounds as good as the version that was recorded 23 years ago.

Also on the disc are Biz Markie doing “The Energy Blues” and Pavement doing “No More Kings.”

**(Ken Dunkin)**

sales of “Schoolhouse Rock! Rocks” were donated to the Children’s Defense Fund, an advocacy group founded by Marian Wright Edelman to aid children living in poverty.

The Schoolhouse Rock series was originally developed as a promotional project by David McCall during his work with the Madison Avenue advertising agency of McCaffrey & McCall. At the time, McCall’s young son was experiencing problems with mathematics, and McCall’s use of the same types of rhythms popular in the rock music of the time helped his son learn his multiplication tables. The original series has gone on to win four Emmy awards. Over the years, Schoolhouse Rock became so popular that a student from the University of Connecticut persuaded ABC to return the program to their Saturday morning lineup in 1992.

In 1993, a show based on Schoolhouse Rock was staged in the basement of Chicago’s Caberet Voltaire to packed houses. The script was written by teacher and writer Scott Ferguson. Ferguson’s story centers around Tom, an edgy schoolteacher searching for a new way to keep his Second and Fourth grade students engaged on his first day of class as an instructor. When Tom turns on his television and sees the characters of Dina, Dori, George, and Shulie, all of whom represent a different part of Tom’s personality, his new friends show him how to win over his students with imagination and music.

Ferguson’s show, “Schoolhouse Rock Live,” is being licensed and performed at various venues across the United States. It will be performed at the University of St. Francis in Joliet, Illinois from October 16 to October 20.

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